

Remarks and Arguments

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Office has found claims 1-19 to be free of the art and in condition for allowance. Claim 20 has been amended herein to more particularly point out the invention. Support for the amendment may be found throughout the specification, e.g., on page 6, lines 4-8. New claims 21 and 22 have been added to more particularly point out the invention. Support for these new claims may be found throughout the specification, e.g., on page 7, lines 16-26, as well as in figures 2-3.

35 U.S.C. § 102

1. The Anticipation Standard

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference."

Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987); MPEP §2131.

2. U.S. Patent No. 5,586,586

Claim 20 stands rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,586,586 (hereinafter "Fiech"). According to the Office, Fiech discloses a portion of a cartridge for a dispensing system comprising a reservoir, an inlet, an outlet, a fill tube and a means for gating gas where the reservoir is positioned between the fluid inlet and the fluid outlet. Claim 20 has been amended herein to recite "a fluid supply line connected to the fluid inlet and a sterilization or clarification filter disposed in the fluid supply line."

Applicants believe that Fiech does not disclose such a cartridge and thus believe the rejection is obviated.

3. U.S. Patent No. 5,971,009

Claim 20 stands rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,971,009 (hereinafter "Schuetz"). According to the Office, Schuetz discloses a portion of a cartridge for a dispensing system comprising a reservoir, an inlet, an outlet, a fill tube and a means for gating gas where the reservoir is positioned between the fluid inlet and the fluid outlet. Claim 20 has been amended herein to recite "a fluid supply line connected to the fluid inlet and a sterilization or clarification filter disposed in the fluid

supply line." Applicants believe that Scheutz does not disclose such a cartridge and thus believe the rejection is obviated.

4. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0194831

Claim 20 stands rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0194831 (hereinafter "Balsdon"). According to the Office, Balsdon discloses a portion of a cartridge for a dispensing system that is part of an automobile apparatus that dispenses predetermined fluid to an engine comprising a reservoir, an inlet, an outlet, a fill valve, a fill tube and a means for gating gas where the reservoir is positioned between the fluid inlet and the fluid outlet. Claim 20 has been amended herein to recite "a fluid supply line connected to the fluid inlet and a sterilization or clarification filter disposed in the fluid supply line." Applicants believe that Balsdon does not disclose such a cartridge and thus believe the rejection is obviated.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted



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